Boston, Massachusetts, Freed. Emp.
Dec. 20. 1853. —

Dear Mr. Estlin;

I have ~~had to~~ so many things to thank you and Mary for, during the last few weeks, that I scarcely know where to begin, and I am quite sure that I shall omit to notice some of them. And you will be very ready to forgive any faults & omissions, when you know that this has been the last day of preparation for the 20th Natl. A.S. Bazaar, & that that great affair will open at 10 a.m. tomorrow, - made attractive, brilliant, & valuable by the unwearied efforts of our transatlantic friends. The last fortnight, in an especial manner, has been a very laborious time, with us, in looking over the foreign goods, marking the prices, & making the other needful arrangements. - But, I rejoice to say, that we have abundant and unmistakeable proofs that neither Dr. Campbell, the "British Banner", & all their Satellites & sympathizers abroad, nor Frederick Douglass, Julia Griffiths, & that school of base traitors & malignant bigots at home, have been able, by their joint & indefatigable efforts, to lessen one iota the amount of British contributions in behalf of the American Anti-Slavery Society. We have already received the following boxes - boxes containing the usual ~~supply~~ variety of useful & beautiful things: viz.

From Edinburgh,	2 boxes	From London, (Mrs. Follen)	1 box
" Glasgow,	1 "	" Liverpool	1 "
" Newcastle on Tyne	1 "	" Bristol, &c.	1 " (very large)
" Leeds,	1 "	" Dublin	2 "
" Manchester	1 "	" Paris,	1 "

making 12 boxes, rec.d & opened;

and there are now on the way to us —

From Cork, 1 box,
" Perth 1 ",
" London, 1 " (Mrs. Massie)
3 —

to which if we add
1 box from Stuttgardt, Germany, lost, or at least damaged (& prevented from seasonably reaching us) by the wreck of the Steamship "Humboldt" near Halifax. — and
1 box, filled with Wilson Armistead's tracts, certainly lost, the ship having been abandoned at sea,

and we have a sum total of seventeen cases sent us from abroad, at least three more than we have ever had before. As Mary suggested the advisability of an acknowledgement, in the Advocate, of the safe arrival of our boxes, perhaps she will be kind enough to put the above in a readable shape, & send it to Mr. Webb, - though it is now too late for any ~~thing~~ number earlier than February.

And now having gotten through with my exordium, I will begin to thank you; and will take the last first. Yesterday I recd. Mary's brief note, accompanying copy of Geo. Thompson's letter to her. I was very glad to see that letter, and to find G. T. again at work; for it has been very disagreeable to have to answer the not infrequent inquiries as to what G. T. is doing, with "I do not know - we hear little or nothing about him, from any source". - Mr Garrison, too, had a very spirited letter from Mr. Thompson, by the same mail which brought the above to me. I have not seen it, but I hear that he lays out about nine months' anti-slavery work for himself in England, Scotland, & Ireland - after which, to come to this country. This will be good news to very many abolitionists here (I mean the coming to this country) - ~~[illegible]~~ Better

~~[illegible]~~ I desire much to see a report of the Manchester Union Meeting; a curious gathering, - and I couldn't but be sorry to hear that George Thompson had ~~[illegible]~~ complimented Joseph Sturge; but, as I don't know just what he did say, I will wait till I do. -

We have the pleasure of Anne & Deborah Weston's company, at present, at my father's house; and, what is more, they both sit in the same room with me this minute. Anne is engaged in writing to you - a piece of needless information on my part, as her letter will reach you, if this does. - They are both quite well, are the main-stays of the Bazaar, knowing just how everything should be done & in the best manner, & never sparing themselves any ~~[illegible]~~ labour; ~~[illegible]~~ Anne cannot, indeed, exert herself so much, physically, as most of her other sisters; but she works up to the full measure of her strength.

Now I must thank you & Mary for letting us see that Stereoscopic likeness of you both. I cannot tell you how well-content we were with it. It was like looking in upon you, unawares. I had seen a stereoscopic daguerreotype of Garrison (taken in Philadelphia), but it had a rigidity, a half-alive half-dead look, that made it not pleasant to me. But your pictures seemed perfectly life-like, and I have looked at them again & again with great pleasure. I feel the responsibility of having the charge of the slide; & I shall endeavour to return it in good order, & in good season. - Your kind & beautiful gift to my children of the Stereoscope also has my thanks, & theirs, & their mother's. I took the instrument & its belongings - also your daguerreotypes - to Leicester with me last Saturday, and they were all

delighted; - I tried to make them look at a number of the other pictures & objects, before coming to your faces, but they were very impatient to see their English friends and were deeply interested at the sight. We hope that some of our Boston friends will purchase the other stereoscope, for the convenience of showing our Bristol Co-adjutors to all comers, desirous of that privilege! You find fault, I perceive, with your own likeness, for having too rosy a hue. To my eyes, there is nothing of that bon vivant air of which you speak; but a look of good health, which I am well aware you cannot have n
- I must thank you, too, for your note of two pa
I value it as a proof of what you can do, though I mu
beg you to spare yourself further efforts to write so m
Your messages, and perhaps occasionally a very fe
lines from your hand, shall suffice me for your part
of the correspondence. - And I must thank them
for her full & interesting notes; one from her uncle's (a
Taunton, I believe) - the next from Bristol Nov. 24, - and
third (with G. Thompson's) rec'd yesterday. The long one I gave
Mr. Phillips for his wife to see, - & they still have it, together
with your short note to me. They much enjoy these let
and Mrs. Phillips is, I believe, very glad to peruse them;
am sure she will appreciate Mary's sympathy in he
suffering. — And I thank you both for giving me the
opportunity of reading the letter to S. Pugh, before forwarding
them, including Mrs. Michelli's spirited domestic sketch, co
of F.W. Chapman's note, & of various letters relating to McKim.

When I commenced writing this, I intended to
have made a long note of it (you see what you have
escaped) - also to have written to Mrs. Anna Thomas -

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I have been writing to-day to Mr. & Mrs. Webb, at Dublin. I mentioned some inaccuracies in the article on the American Unitarians in the Sept. No. of the Advocate, which I hope may be corrected in the next number. ~~His~~ Mr. Webb's illness, I presume, prevents him from doing much for the present number; some of the errors however were not typographical merely.

I have been on the point of writing to Mr. Chamerovzow, relative to the Case of John Glasgow, of which he gave some acct in the Reporter. That acct. was copied into the "Standard", where I read it, with mingled horror & amazement; horror at the atrocious & villainous cruelty practised upon him; — amazement that the British Govt. will ~~the~~ passively submit to such a horrible outrage on one of its own free subjects, & to such a gross insult to itself. — Cannot Mr. C. and his friends in London get that case fairly & squarely before the Government? Cannot it be well substantiated & proved? If it be, as stated in the Reporter, and the British Govt. submits to it, ~~it~~ the Govt. is disgraced most utterly, & fallen to the low level of the Govt. of the U. S. — If the Brit. Govt. will not come forward to vindicate its own honour, and rescue its own subjects from slavery, so wickedly & shamelessly forced upon them, it is not fit to be longer "a power in the earth"; it had better give up, at once, to Nicholas of Russia; though I don't know as even Nicholas would accept homage & service from a Nation which had succumbed, and been ~~insulted~~ silent, under the insults and petty tyrannies of that insolent & braggart State of South Carolina, — or Georgia either. — I do deeply feel that this is a case where the British people cannot be silent; where the Br. Govt. must not be inactive. A determined resistance to such tyranny & wrong may first as well be made first as last

Emboldened by their impunity & success – seeing that they may really venture to make slaves of British Subjects, and lay upon them the slaveholder's cowardly lash, & subject them to every conceivable cruelty without notice of the British People or Government, – they will proceed to other & even more shameless cases, – until they really are, what they have so long thought themselves, the monarchs of all, – and all men their born slaves. It is said the Br. Govt. fear that the treaty with the U.S. will be annulled on our part. There is no danger of it whatever! The Slave Power rules here; that Power will never consent to a rupture with Gt. Britain, 2 mighty reasons. (1). G. B. is her best customer, for her cotton, trouble with Gt. Britain wd. bankrupt every mother's son of them. (2). In case of difficulty with G. B., there would be a general insurrection among her slaves, and a final end to Slavery. Be not alarmed by Amn. threats of annulling the treaty. It is the old game of bluster & lies, wh. the South has played off on the Northern States so long, & with such effect. England ought to be above & beyond heeding the slaveholder's threat. Let Eng^d. insist on the most entire respect being shown to all her subjects, and make it known & understood that she will not submit, for a single hour, to such a flagrant outrage as the enslavement of one of her citizens. – I tell you if G. Britain yields to this cowardly brow-beating, what use is it for any other nation to resist oppression & wrong? Gt. Britain has an imperative duty, not to herself alone, but to liberty & humanity, the world over, in a case like this.

Have you seen the ~~Futher~~ Volume of Solomon Northup? It is well worth reading; doubtless, it is essentially the truth, and is destined to have a powerful effect in this country. What these poor souls suffer, who can tell, or conceive

(which I must now postpone) — for, owing to various interruptions, and sundry intervals of conversation with the ladies aforenamed, and with my brother, Chiefly on points connected with the morrow's Bazaar, (to make which ready, many last things remain to do) — it has got to be nearly midnight; and I must not trench too far on the night, with the demands I shall have to make on my strength tomorrow. — So I will glance at a few business matters: I have ordered a "Standard" to be regularly sent, free, to Mr. Chepon at Manchester. The "Liberator" is now going to him, also. — The "Bugle" for Miss Chick, & for Miss Norris, I have ordered discontinued. I am sorry that Miss N. did not receive the paper. I have no doubt it was regularly sent. I am sure I directed it to be sent; but Mr. Webb gave me no address, as I well recollect, only saying that you sent him the name, & I therefore ventured to direct it sent to Bristol, Eng.? That perhaps was not sufficiently specific.

I agree with you that J. H. Allen's letter was "stupid." It reached no just about the time that Mr. Garrison returned from Michigan, & resumed the Liberator. I handed him the 'Inquirer' (with Allen's letter); he afterwards said there appeared to be no point to it, & he shouldn't re-print it. I agreed with him that 'it was not worth the room it would take.' But within a day or two he has had a letter from J. H. A. (who has no idea of putting his light under a bushel), requesting him to publish his letter, & sending him a copy of Journal. So G., who cannot refuse any such request, will publish it.

The A. S. Watchman, which Mary says she sent me, never came to my hand. I have however seen various extracts from it in our A. S. papers, — I have been highly pleased with them. I wish Mr. C. could have joined his forces to those of the Advocate. — Thank you for a number of the December Advocate, directed in your own hand. In it, I see, my good friend Pillsbury is largely quoted.

And what do you think? Mr. Pillsbury is going to Europe. This veritable Boanerges, this flail of a corrupt & pro-slavery church & ministry, is really going across the great waters. His health is greatly impaired by 12 or 14 years of constant A.S. labour. A friend invited him to take this excursion in his company, promising to bear a portion of his travelling expenses. As he was almost hors du combat, as a lecturer, he thankfully accepted the offer. Some of his friends are making up a small purse for him, and he will sail early in January, go straightway to Paris, thence to So. of Europe for the winter, and visit G. Britain in the Spring. He wants to meet the Scotch Presbyterians, & lay before them the evidence of the corrupt character of their american brethren. We think he will do excellent work, if his health will permit him to lecture. As Phillips says - the cry will be, Here comes the very worst, most fanatical, & most infidel, of all the Garrisonians; now we shall see the very worst of this dreaded Sect! - & it is a very noble, unselfish, & excellent man; - rather unpolished in his manner & outward appearance, ~~not~~ & sometimes offends against a refined taste; but very desirous to learn, where he needs to learn, & of a most affectionate spirit, & generous nature. I want him to meet you & Mary. He is a very able man, & can set many things before you as no other person can.

What can I say of F. Douglass? Time & space ~~forbid my~~ old age advise of my saying anything. What a fearful fall! What a base & false hearted man is he now developing himself! But I must forbear. I hear of his complimenting Dr. Campbell of the "Banner", & feeling honoured by his friendship!

W. Armistead was sending us a box of his tracts; but, as he said, they are lost; they were shipped in the "Lady Knight", abandoned at sea. I suppose some of your "Brief Statement" may have been in the box. - I do not forget that I never complied with a request of yours, about that tract. - It is one of my many omitted duties. - I never saw the Xn. Register's attacks on you. No reply to it, however, could have been got into the Register - according to my opinion. But with sincere & affectionate regards to yourself & Mary, I stop for the present.

Saml. May Jr.

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